

break the bonds of dependence, we are told to sit down and shut up.

Well, Mr. Speaker, we will not sit down, and we will not shut up. We are going to stand up for the hopes of future generations. We are going to speak out on behalf of victims of the current system, both recipients, yes, and the taxpayers.

If the only coherent, straightforward argument made against welfare reform is the two command words to shut up, then maybe the protectors of the present system ought to consider at least getting out of the way.

The intellectual wellspring of the status quo seems to have run dry after a torrent of rhetoric and \$5 trillion of taxpayer money spent over the last 30 years on this ridiculous system of welfare that we have. The nay sayers simply have not made the case for protecting a bureaucratic Federal welfare system that penalizes work and rewards irresponsibility and writes off whole segments of our community.

So this Congress, I hope, is finally prepared to pass welfare reform. This bill is based upon true compassion. It has the work requirement. It protects children.

It seeks to discourage teenage sex and to crack down on deadbeat dads who want the Government to take the responsibilities for kids that they produce. They ought to own up and pay for these kids themselves. These deadbeat dads have been getting off for far too long.

Our welfare reform eliminates taxpayer-financed subsidy payments for drug addicts and alcoholics. We have been paying drug addicts and alcoholics welfare benefits and SSI benefits. It is disgraceful.

Importantly, it ends discrimination in adoption.

It is time for welfare reform. It is long overdue. We are finally going to pass this tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. MFUME] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MFUME addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. WELLER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, as one of the chief sponsors of the Family Reinforcement Act, I rise in strong support of the goals of child support enforcement provisions and the Personal Responsibility Act. All are Republican welfare reform initiatives.

The condition of America's families is of utmost importance to the future of our country. We must act quickly and decisively to restore and encourage and protect our most fundamental unit of America society, the family.

I am here today to voice my support for the common-sense goals of H.R. 4,

reducing welfare dependency by ensuring that parents support their children, strengthening and streamlining the State-based child support system and giving the States the tools they need to get the job done.

Too many single parent families have had nowhere else to turn but to resort to government support programs. Too many children go to bed hungry or do without, all because their deadbeat parents outrun the current bureaucratic and time-consuming child support collection system. This has got to stop.

Republicans are working to change our child support collection system. Republicans want to help the needy children of America, particularly when we see that today \$34 billion is owed to children today by deadbeat parents. In my own State of Illinois, that is \$176 million on unmet obligations to the children of Illinois.

Let us look at what is in H.R. 4 regarding child support. The Personal Responsibility Act has three goals in child support: to reduce welfare dependency by ensuring that parents support their children, strengthening the State-based child support system and giving the States the tools they need to get the job done.

It provides for strong measures to establish paternity, requiring applicants and recipients of public aid to establish paternity for their children, granting States financial incentives for establishing paternity.

The bill also provides better tools to locate absent parents, making additional information available to the States, including law enforcement systems and data on licenses, newly hired employees and members of organized labor.

H.R. 4 also provides streamlined procedures to collect child support. In fact, if you look at the States' caseload, which has grown almost 150 percent since 1983, then you will discover that this plan helps States manage caseloads more effectively by providing expedited procedures to order genetic testing, enter default orders and issue subpoenas.

It also removes the barriers that exist when parents reside in different States by requiring States to honor the child support orders of one State so no parent can avoid child support by leaving the State their child lives in.

And it also puts in place tough techniques, tough tools so States can enforce child support orders, strengthening the States' enforcement capability by allowing States to use assets, income and even lottery prizes to satisfy child support debt.

It also requires licensing agencies to collect social security numbers so States may match child support and licensing records and impose restrictions on licenses held by people who fail to support their children.

With adoption of the Salmon amendment today, it allows States to place liens on property of deadbeat parents who fled their States, such as someone

who would flee my home State of Illinois, to avoid their responsibility to their own children.

Ladies and gentleman, H.R. 4 provides tough tools to help deadbeat parents be located and, of course, be forced to meet their responsibilities. If you look at the facts, if you look at the record, H.R. 4 helps kids. In fact, when you know the facts, that too many deadbeat participants have stiffed their own flesh and blood for far too long, then it is time to support the Personal Responsibility Act.

Let us vote for real reform that helps kids, helps children. Let us pass H.R. 4 tomorrow on Friday.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AND REQUEST OF MEMBER ON SPECIAL ORDERS LIST

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name replace that of the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] on the list for special orders.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. CLYBURN]?

There is no objection.

WELFARE TO WORK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. CLYBURN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I think we can all agree that the welfare system is in need of reform. But the Republicans' idea of welfare reform is to callously toss welfare recipients off the government rolls without much thought to getting or keeping them on payrolls.

You will get no arguments from me that the best way to reduce the welfare rolls is to find jobs for many of the recipients. But merely requiring welfare recipients to find jobs without looking at the factors that make it difficult for them to get or keep these jobs is a reform measure that is primed for failure.

H.R. 4, is the GOP's "Personal Responsibility Bill," takes practically no responsibility for providing mechanisms by which these welfare recipients can make a realistic transition from welfare to work.

First, the bill that we are debating here today contains no funding for work programs. Under this bill, welfare recipients can receive government assistance for up to two years before they are required to work. Why not begin right away with helping these recipients find gainful employment?

Second, this is the same bill that would put low-income working mothers in a bind by cutting federal funds to existing childcare programs.